Among the Mulberry Trees.

CHEKIANG, China, written in the heart of the silk which arch the canal at every few temperature and moisture. can see trees by the millions, exon and on until they cut the boriborder the waterways and are of for raising rice.

HEF SILK PROVINCE OF ASIA. but Chekiang produces more and silk than any other. It raises wast ies of cocoons every year for export ses in which silk reeling is done, hib and other foreigners, as well as by naires are numbered by scores. ONG THE MULBERRY TREES. the rou could be with me in this ride the mulberry orchards. Our mul-

me grows about as big as an elm, is not out of place among the trees The mulberry trees here are larger than a 3-year-old peach tree, ed as ragged as a quince bush. They sted in rows only a few feet apart hine grows close to the trunks, and enals which are fed by the Yangtse The Yangtse Kinng is, as full of he Nile. It brings down vast quanof rich mud every year and drops into the canals. The Chinese dredge out and spread it over the ground. sop it up in nets or in canvas bags beavy iron rings about them. They

ently get out and walk through There are no roads any- silver. s are pits made at different levels so about, going this way and that withregard to distance. The only highways the canals, which are filled with traferen as the country roads of our rich ning districts are filled with wagons. HOW THE TREES ARE GROWN.

ed will annually yield as much as 100 give them an enormous profit.

ands of leaves. In some parts of CheHOW THE CHINESE MAR me the seeds of the wild mulberry are en and the young aprouts grafted from cultivated mulberry. This is thought produce better leaves, The trees have to be carefully watched

meets. There are silk tree borers the our peach tree borers, worms ich can enter the bark and must be dug and there are insects which eat the

REARING THE SILK WORM. have been interested in learning how Chinese rear silk worms. They have sed the business to a science, and it is so important that the empress starts China were reared by an empress. This a day, the wife of Hwang-ti, who lived 2500 and who is known as the goddess The present empress sacrifices to every April in the palace grounds.

abite linen or grass cloth. job takes her seventy-four hours, or ten days, after which time they ready for hatching.

CURIOUS CHINESE INCUBATOR. cany silk districts the people have The warmth of the urbisnes the heat, the most approved tout. The silk worms are as fine there are twenty-five such from each one of five different ecocoust their business runs high into the millions time to time, by pulling a cobweb strand their business runs high into the millions from each one of five different ecocoust their business runs high into the millions from each one of five different ecocoust from each on

How Silk Worms Are Reared-lluman Incubators-Cocoons Raised and Sold.

by Frank G. Carpenter.) other places the eggs are hatched in warm chambers and in other ways. The first silk eggs taken to Europe were of China. For a week I have been carried to Constantinople in bamboo tubes ong through one canal after an- and hatched in a manure heap. In the

Consul General Goednow in his batching rooms and also in those where the through a country which is one the hatched worms are kept the tempera and of mulberry trees. There are ture is not tested by a thermometer, but of these trees on every side of by a man who takes off his clothes and I write, and by getting off on the goes in naked in order to tell by the senmbing to the top of one of the sations produced upon his body as to the

AS DELICATE AS BABIES.

The silk worms are watched as carefully as though they were babies. Flies are kept here and there by clumps of from them. No loud talking is permitted ess or the tailer shade trees of near them, and the people wash themselves firm village and the pitlike fields carefully before handling them. Thunder is said to alarm them, and only clean hands must touch the leaves which feed them. is preduced in almost every part of The leaves must be cut into fine shreds, and the worms eat them so rapidly that you can hear their jaws going. At first they are fed four times a day, and on the fifth day they nee, Germany and Japan, and bales go to sleep. As they grow older they are sile go from here to our factories in fed once an hour, and when they have There are thousands of reached their full growth they eat three or four meals a day. They keep on feeding peat silk filatures with the finest of and sleeping until they are three weeks schinery put up by the French, old, casting their skins at each sleep, and then go into a long last sleep, where they se, to turn the cocoons into remain until a new and large skin is fully The Chinese use more silk them- matured. They are full grown at the age than any other people and their of thirty-two days, and are then the color of amber. Each worm is new about two inches long and about as big around as your little finger, and it is ready for its work of making silk.

HOW SILK IS SPUN.

After this the silk worm takes no more food and begins to spin from its mouth Most of them are trimmed down to first fastening the thread to a frame on feet, the sprouts being cut off year which it is placed. It moves its head from The orchards look more like one side to the other and keeps on doing than forests, and the trees are sel- so until it has woven a cocoon about its body. This requires from two to five He is knotty and guarly as an olive days, and at the end it again goes to sleep.

In the province of Chenkiang the spin ning is done in what is known as silk carefully cultivated that not a weed | worm hills. These are bundles of straw be seen anywhere. Here and there placed on mats on platforms about as high tuff is raised between the trees, as your waist. The worms crawl up on th straw and fasten themselves to it and there nal fertilizing and hocing goes on spin their cocoons. About 100 worms are round. All kinds of manure are attached to each bundle, and fires are bui but the chief fertilizer comes from around the tables that they may be kept warm. While they are spinning the noise is like that of a soft shower of rain, and when the noise stops the people know the cocoons are completed. After this they are baked or boiled in oil to kill the worms and are then ready for reeling, or for sale,

SELLING THE COCOONS. Many of these Chinese farmers raise the great tongs made of bamboo poles cocoons for sale. They do not pretend to specifike baskets on the ends, look- get the silk out, but market them in bulk. for all the world like giant sugar tongs. The cocoons are the money crop of many which they pinch up a quart of mud a farmer. He will raise vegetables, rice time. Later on they throw it on the and other grains for his food and depend is and spread it around the trees, covupon and spite. The governte whole surface of the ground. The
clothing, opium and sait. The governand spread it around the trees, cov- upon his cocoons to supply money for his t save every bit of fertilizing ma- ment encourages the people to raise silk even to their hair cuttings and finger worms and urges them to plant mulberry strings. I see the children every-trees. The result is that almost every going Fout and picking up filthy farmer has his little orchard, and the vast of all kinds to add to the manure product of silk produced in China comes from small farmers. Muny a man does not raise more than twenty pounds of cocoons for which he gets perhaps \$4 or \$5 in

You could not possibly ride over time after they are offered for sale. try in a cart, for many of the short time sites that fifteen days were set at they may be flooded from time to a side for selling cocoons, but of late the farmers in some way or other have shortened this between the fields, and these and they come the fields. is that the foreign and Chinese silk make must have their men on hand at this time to buy the cocoons.

There are regular market centers to which the farmers come with their silk They will go from buyer to buyer and dicker until they get the highest prices, and brough an interpreter I have learned the buying is therefore exciting. Each morherry trees are grown. The seeds chant has his own scales, and he buys by first planted in nurseries and when the the ounce or pound, paying spot cash. sets have reached several feet in height. This necessitates a large capital, as all the The transplanted five or six feet apart | cocoons used for the year must be bought regular rows. This is done in DecemAfter this the trees are carefully factories in this region which spend auand agree the pruned year after anally \$200,000 in gold in purchasing cot, and never allowed to grow more than coons. They have to fix their price according to the height. The cutting does not ing to the selling prices of silk in Europe, be them. A sound mulberry tree will and a sudden fall will make them lose for fifty years, and when fully ma- money. On the other hand a rise may

HOW THE CHINESE MAKE SILK. Much of the silk of China is woven in the homes of the people. I see reeling going on in many of the farm villages. It is done chiefly by women, the cocoons being kept for the time in clean boiling water. They are stirred around in this water until the thread ends become loosened, and then several of these ends are joined toet and must be killed by fumigating or gether and the cocoons reeled off on rude reels worked by pedals. If one of the threads breaks it is joined together or replaced by another. It requires considerable skill to do the reeling, for the thread when completed must be of equal thickness and brightness. A good reeler can make about twenty-si ounces of fine silk in

WEAVING SILK.

The weaving, as done by the natives outside the factories, is on machinery of the rudest description. Everything goes by is the best time for hatching silk hand, from ribbons to velvets and fine broand it is at this time that the moths cades. I see women and girls making thatted laying. The Chinese can tell ribbons in all the cities of this region, hale moths from the female ones while and in some places find them weaving and in some places find them weaving 7 are still in the cocoons. They know satins and velvets. At Nanking I went though the imperial looms which weave the proper time. In some places the satins and velvets for the emperor, the emperor is the proper time. Date laid on clean paper, and in others press dowager and the court. They make The moth will lay as many as 500 eggs. silks to the value of about \$2,000,000. It is impossible to buy the goods except in an which she lives five or six days with- underhand way, for all of it is supposed to tating and then dies. It is important go to the imperial household. The wages tare good eggs, and the atronger co- of the weavers are about so cents a day the sre chosen for the purpose. The with rice. The ribbons are usually made is a see first washed and then sprinkled on small looms by women and young girst, disalt. They are next covered with who get about 10 cents a day and food.

There are in all about 200 looms in the improvement of the second sec perial establishment, from which were woven during the year of the emperor's marriage \$3.000,000 worth of goods.

CHINA'S MODERN SILK FACTORIES. Within the past few years an enormous amount has been invested here in modern being a lusty woman, who puts the silk filatures devoted to recling the cocoons inside her clothes upon her bare bo-land keeps them there until she knows there tickling that the silk worms are **Express Prepaid** On All Orders of

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Ladies' Muslin Underwear

At Clearance Prices. ed, lace and embroidery trimmed, Sale price, 69c, 48c Ladies' Muslin Chemise, hemstitched, tucked, lace and embroidery trimmed, worth up to 1.00. Sale price, 69c, 50c, 39c and...... 25c

Ladies' Muslin Gowns, ruffled, tuck- dery trimmed, worth up to 1.00. style, ruffled, tucked, hemstitched embroidery and lace trimmed, and worth up to 1.25. Sale price, 25c Ladles' Muslin Underskirts, tucked, worth up to 75c. Sale price, 10c ruffled, hemstitched and embroi- 48c, 39c, 25c, 19c, 15c, 12c...10c

lace and embroidery trimmed, and

Children's Muslin Underwear

At Clearance Prices.

ed hem, ages 1 to 9. 18c sleeves with cambric ruffle, 25c

Children's Muslin Drawers, hem- Children's Muslin Drawers, lace and stitched hem, good material. 10c embroidery trimmed, ages ages 1 to 9. For this sale..........25c Children's Muslin Drawers, made Children's Muslin Gowns, made with four cluster tucks, hemstitch- with square yoke, finished neck and sleeves with cambrie ruffle,

LADIES' AND CHILDREN'S

Knit Underwear

At Clearance Prices. fortable undershirts for infants, and

Rubens Infant Shirt the prices for this sale are 25c



No Trouble. Rubens Infant Shirts in three different grades and in all sizes, from one to six. No buttons, no

trouble, the best and most com-

Suits, all sizes, worth 75c. Ladies' Fine Krift Vests and Pants, all sizes, the 75c quality. Misses' and Children's Union Suits, all sizes, worth up to 75c. Sale price, 48c and 25c Missos' and Children's Vests and Sale price, 50c and 25c Odd lots of Ladies' Knit Vests, good quality, long sleeves, worth 121c

Ribbons, Laces, Embroideries

Beautiful Point de Paris Laces, with match insertings one to six Inches wide. Price for this sale, 10c yard...... 10c Fine Cambric and Hamburg Embrotdery Edges and Insertings. For this sale at, yard...... 5c

Elegant Cambric Embroideries with Insertings to match one to ten this sale, yard......10c

2900 pieces All Pure Silk Ribbon in plain and fancy taffeta, Nos. 10c Dainty Valenciennes Laces, pretty patterns, big assortment. Price for this sale, doz. yds. 10C English Torchon Laces, big variety, new patterns. Price new patterns. Price for terns with match insertings, Price for this sale, yard

Boys' Clothing

At Clearance Prices. Boys' Two-Piece Cassimere Suits, in plaids, checks and solid colors, ages 7 to 15, worth 1.50 suit. 89c Boys' Two Piece Cassimere Suits in faucy checks and solid colors, ages 7 to 15, worth 1.75 a suit. 1.00 Boys' Two Piece Cassimere Suits in fancy platds and stripes, also solid colors, ages 7 to 15, worth 1.25 All of our Boys' Caps, worth up to 1.50 each, on sale at 98c, 15c Boys' Knee Pants, big assortment, good patterns, well made, sizes 3 to 16, worth up to 1.75. Sale price, 1.25, 1.00, 75c, 50c, 35c 75c

Men's Furnishings

At Clearance Prices. Men's Fine Neglige Shirts, made of fine percale and Scotch madras, with and without collars, all new and up to date patterns, all sizes, and worth up to 1.50 each. Sale price. 98c, 75c, 48a Mon's Heavy Fleeced Undershirts and Drawers, made with finished seams, all new goods, all sizes, and worth up to 75c each. Sale 25c Men's Fine Merino and Cashmere Wool Half Hose, in natural and

solid colors, all sizes, all new goods, and worth up to 75c a pair. Sale price, 50c, 25c and..... 15c Staples and Domestics

At Clearance Prices. Good Quality Bleached Domestic. Sale price, 10 yards cial bargain at, 10 yards lin, Jaconet finish.
Bale price, 10 yards for......50C
Full Yard Wide Extra Fine White Cambric Muslin, Jaconet finish worth 10c. Sale price, 75c Good grade Unbleached Domestic, 9-4 Bleached Sheeting, worth 16c. Sale price..... 13 2 C Apron Ginghams, all colors, Sale price, 10 yards for..... 35 C Sale price, 10 yards for ... Choice of our Fine Outing Flannels and Flannelettes, worth up to 18c Sale price, 12 1-2c, 10c

Ready-to-Wear Garments

At Clearance Prices.

Ladies' Tailor Made Suits in black, gray, brown, red and navy, made in materials, plain and trimmed Eton and Jacket effects, worth up to 18.98, 12.98, 8.98 and4.98 35.00. Sale price, 22.98,

Ladies' Black Silk Skirts Ladies' Black Silk Skirts, plain and handsomely trimmed in ruching and liberty satin ruffles, worth up to 18.00. Sale price, 12.98, 10.98, 8.98, 7.98 and 5.00

Ladies' Walking Skirts Ladies' Walking Skirts, all woot, colors black, brown and navy,

Ladies' Flannel Waists Ladies' Fine Imported French Flannel Walsts, all this season's latest and best styles and colors, worth up Ladies' Black and Navy Cloth to 7.50 each. Sale price, 2.48

Ladies' Fur Collarettes and Boas in electric seal, 'possum and mink, worth up to 15.00. Sale price, 9.98, and 4.98

Ladies' Silk Petticoats

Ladies' Silk Petticoats, all colors and black, worth up to 20,00. Sale price, 12.50, 9.98, 6.98

Ladies' Jackets Ladies' Binck Cloth Jackets, all sizes, worth up to 10,98. 4 60 Sale price 7.48 and 4.98

Ladies' Capes Capes, worth up to 8.00. Sale price, 4.93, 2.48, 1.98 and...... 98c

Ladies' Mercerized Petticoats Ladies' Mercerized Underskirts in colors and black, made with ruffles and accordion pleated ruffles, and worth up to 1.75. Sale price 48c

Ladies' Outing Gowns Ladies' Outing Gowns, worth up to 1.00. Sale price, 750

Ladles' Wrappers

Ladies' Percale and Outing Wrappers, well made and nicely trimprice, 1.75, 1.48, 98c, 75c and. 50c

White Goods

At Clearance Prices.

SPECIALL SPECIALI One case Short Lengths Fine White India Linen, ranging from 10 to 20 yards in piece, and well worth 18c One case White India Linengsuperfine quality manufacture, short 32-inch Fine White India Linen, lengths, ranging from 10 to 20 yds, very fine and sheer, and would be and worth 25c a yard,

White Cross Bar Muslin in a variety of checks, soft finish and good quality, worth 8 1-3c. For this sale...... 5c Extra Wide and Extra Pine Quality Cross Bar Musling, worth 1bc, For this sale..... 10c very fine and sheer, and would be cheap at 15c a yard.

Table Linens

At Clearance Prices,

the S9c quality. 60-inch Genuine Turkey Red Table 17 x 24 Hemmed Linea Huck Tow-Damask, worth 50c. 30c els. worth 16c. 12½c

69-inch Half Bleached Table Linen, 68-inch Bleached Table Linen, the 50c quality. 60-inch Turkey Red Table Damask, 64-inch Bleached Satin Damask,

some in Hangchow, Soochow and at other wound the five cocoons at once, twisting

places in the silk regions.

inches wide. Price for

through the introduction of Mr. Riva, a thread. The kind of thread that we im-French proprietor of one of the Shanghai port for the United States usually conestablishments, that I was able to go tains six, eight or ten strands, through the Chinese filature at Soochow. This filature has a brick building covering threads are loosened by soaking the coabout five acres. It employes 800 hands, coons in hot water. This is done in bowls and its capital must be at least a half mil-lion dollars. The Chinese heads of the es-coons being stirred about with little tablishment who took me through the fila- brushes of bamboo by Chinese girls of ture were tail, portly, fine looking men, from 8 to 13 years of age. When the dressed in silk brocades, which would have threads become loosened they can easily made fine gowns for any White House re- be picked up. ception. They spoke English well, and WORKING AT THREE CENTS A DAY, were thoroughly posted on the silk markets of the world. We first entered the basement, where a number of English steam engines were supplying the power, and then mounted to the second fleor and were taken through a number of large rooms filled with little white balls covered with a soft, silky fuzz. Each ball was about as big as the largest peanut. These were the cocoons as they had come in from the country. They had been baked in evens and the worms inside them were cooked hard. I picked up a handful and sheok them. They felt like peanuts, and the little baked worms rattled like kernels inside the shells. CHINESE FACTORY GIRLS.

Leaving this department we went into the factory proper, a great room which was humming like a cotton mill. It was 500 feet long and 75 feet wide, and was filled with machinery. In it 700 women and girls were reeling silk. They were working at the machines, which ran in cows from one end of the room to the other. Some of the women were sitting at pans of steaming hot water in which the silk cocoons belbed about as though they were alive, while thin threads of fine they were alive, while thin threads of fine they were alive. working at the machines, which ran in white silk were pulled from them by the moving reels above. As I looked into the pans I could see the cocoons dancing about From Washington Star. in the steam in blocks of five, and that each woman started a new thread, from fime to time, by pulling a cobweb strand from each one of five different eccoons

their threads together into one before i Most of these filatures are owned and was wound. Different numbers of strands operated by Chinese, although five at are used to make the different kinds of Shanghai have foreign managers. It was silk thread. Five strands make the finest

Before the cocoons are unwound the

Some of these little children work at 3 cents a day, and some of the women only get as much as 5 cents of our money. The best of the little ones receive 12 cents, and the highest paid woman of the whole factory was getting as cents a day. This was for thirteen hours and for seven days of the week.

Notwithstanding these low wages, I noticed that the women and children ap-peared happy and well dressed. Many of the girls wore jewelry, and some of the prettiest hands that wound the cocoons about in the water had silver or gold brace. lets on the slender wrists above them. Frank G. Carpenter.

A Hard-Headed Boy. From Washington Star.

"I's getter ban' dat Pickaninny Jim over to de society foh de Prevention of

"Suffering with a cold?" asked the hotel "It's very unpleasant."
"Oh, I don't mind it as much
I am a stranger in this town. To

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